



SBARA GROUNDPLANE

Volume 16 Issue 5 May, 2016

SBARA President's Message—May 2016

Welcome to May 2016! The month is off to an interesting start. May Day on May 1st, Star Wars Day on May 4th (May the Fourth be with You), and the Cinco de Mayo on May 5th. Ask me how many margaritas I had, and I will plead the (May) 5th! :-)

The Tri-City Voice, April 19th edition, provided some REALLY nice press for SBARA Radio in the Park in the form of an article and photos that I had shot at last year's event. They placed the article with a couple of large photos right on the front page...above the fold! Very nice!

Our 2nd SBARA Radio in the Park occurred on Saturday, April 23rd in Central Park near the the parking lot by Paseo Padre Pkwy and Sailway Drive. Can we call this an annual event now? We'd still like to do another one around August or September as another excuse to go "play" in the park. What do you think? We are open to suggestions for a date.

There was a very nice turnout of both club members and visitors, due in part to the article in the Tri-City Voice.



We kept things, as we did last year, pretty close to the parking lot. This works well for multiple reasons...it makes it convenient for those operating from, or having equipment attached to, their car and you don't have to carry equipment very far! Yay!



Greg Miller's (WY6P) Famous (or infamous) hex beam antenna.

Greg Miller (WY6P) was gracious enough to bring and setup his sky blue hex beam antenna. I'm still looking for a giant spider we can put inside of the dish or maybe hang some laundry around the edges, as it also reminds me of those outdoor racks for drying clothes.



Greg Miller (WY6P) enjoying the shade and a QSO.



Gene Arrillaga (KF6ZYD) experimenting and testing.

[NOTE:
The secret
phrase for
a free raf-
fle ticket
at the
next
meeting
is: Central
Park.

Write this phrase on a piece of paper and hand it in for one, free raffle ticket.]

One thing that became much clearer this year...and maybe it was just because I was listening better...was that hex beam takes quite a bit of effort to setup and take down. Although I REALLY appreciate Greg bringing this cool antenna/conversation piece...we both agreed that it is a lot of effort for a half-day event.

Soooo...whether we do another Radio in the Park later this year or wait and do one next year, the consensus is to stick to wire or vertical antennas so that Greg, and crew, can spend less time setting up and more time on the radio! I'd love to get a full size G5RV up between a couple of trees.

Greg also suggested a folded dipole. Please make share your suggestions for easy to setup



Bernhard (AE6YN) helping visitors at the 40 meter station.

and take
down an-
tenna ide-
as!

Bernhard
Hailer
(AE6YN)
was hav-
ing fun on
40 meters
and teach-
ing some
youngsters
about CW.

Stephen Rishton
(AG6TT)

was operating
out of the back
of his car.
Umesh Ghodke
(K6VUG) setup
his satellite an-
tenna. Gene Ar-
rillaga (KF6ZYD)
was experiment-
ing with some
antennas. And
Lloyd Hartshorn
(N6DOK) had
an interesting
setup with solar
panels and a
home brew re-
peater.



Stephen Rishton (AG6TT) took advantage of the hatchback of his car and used a telescoping flagpole for a mast with antenna on top.

Bottom line...I think a great time was had by all!
It was a nice warm-up for Field Day coming up
at the end of next month! Stay tuned for details!
73!

Steve Wilson
KG6HJU



Umesh Ghodke (K6VUG) always draws a crowd with his tape measure satellite antenna.

2016 ARRL Field Day is June 25-26

ARRL's Annual Field Day event is coming up quickly next month! What is Field Day you ask? Field Day is part educational event, part operating event, part public relations event...and a lot of fun! The object is to work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions; i.e., with battery or generator power and away from a fixed base station.



- Location:** Fremont Central Park / Lake Elizabeth (near the intersection of Paseo Padre Parkway and Sailway Drive)
- Setup:** Friday, June 24th, 11:00am
- Operating:** Saturday, June 25th, 11:00am
To
Sunday, June 26th, 11am (24 hours)
- Picnic:** Saturday, June 25th, 5:00pm
PLEASE NOTE: Once again, SBARA will have the main dish catered by Smoking Pig BBQ. The menu will include Chicken, Pulled Pork, and Beef Brisket. We ask that attendees bring a salad, side dish, or dessert...and be sure to bring a chair!

Field Day 2016 is NEXT MONTH!!! (cont'd.)

This is an opportunity to:

- Have fun in the park with your fellow hams.
- Camp overnight in Central Park in a tent.
- Work HF, whether you are licensed for the bands or not.
- Make more contacts than you can imagine.
- Learn how to use logging software.
- Share our hobby with the public.
- Learn the difference between **Running** and **Search & Pounce**.
- Sleep/nap to the hum of gas generators.
- Learn contesting techniques.
- See how long you can stay up at night making contacts.

Please put this weekend in your calendar and plan to help setup on Friday, operate over the weekend, help take down on Sunday, and/or come by for a visit to see what we are doing.

SEE YOU THERE!

Steve KG6HJU

TX3X Chesterfield Island DXpedition in October 2015

Our Speaker for this exciting DXpedition is Ross W. Forbes, K6GFJ

Currently retired, Ross has been an IT Manager for Sevin Rosen Funds, held various IT positions for a large Palo Alto law firm, and ran his own import/export company in the 80s. Early in his career he held various positions in commercial broadcasting. Ross has been licensed since 1963, and currently holds an Amateur Extra Class license. Previous calls include: WB6GFJ, KL7FFT, KH6GJW, XE0GFJ, ZK1XE, ZL0AKO, VK3BZZ, 3D2FB, FO0FB, and TX3X.

Ross is a Life Member of ARRL, AMSAT, OCWA. He is also a member of NCDXC, NCCC, CDXC, RSGB and serves as an advisor to the NCDXF.

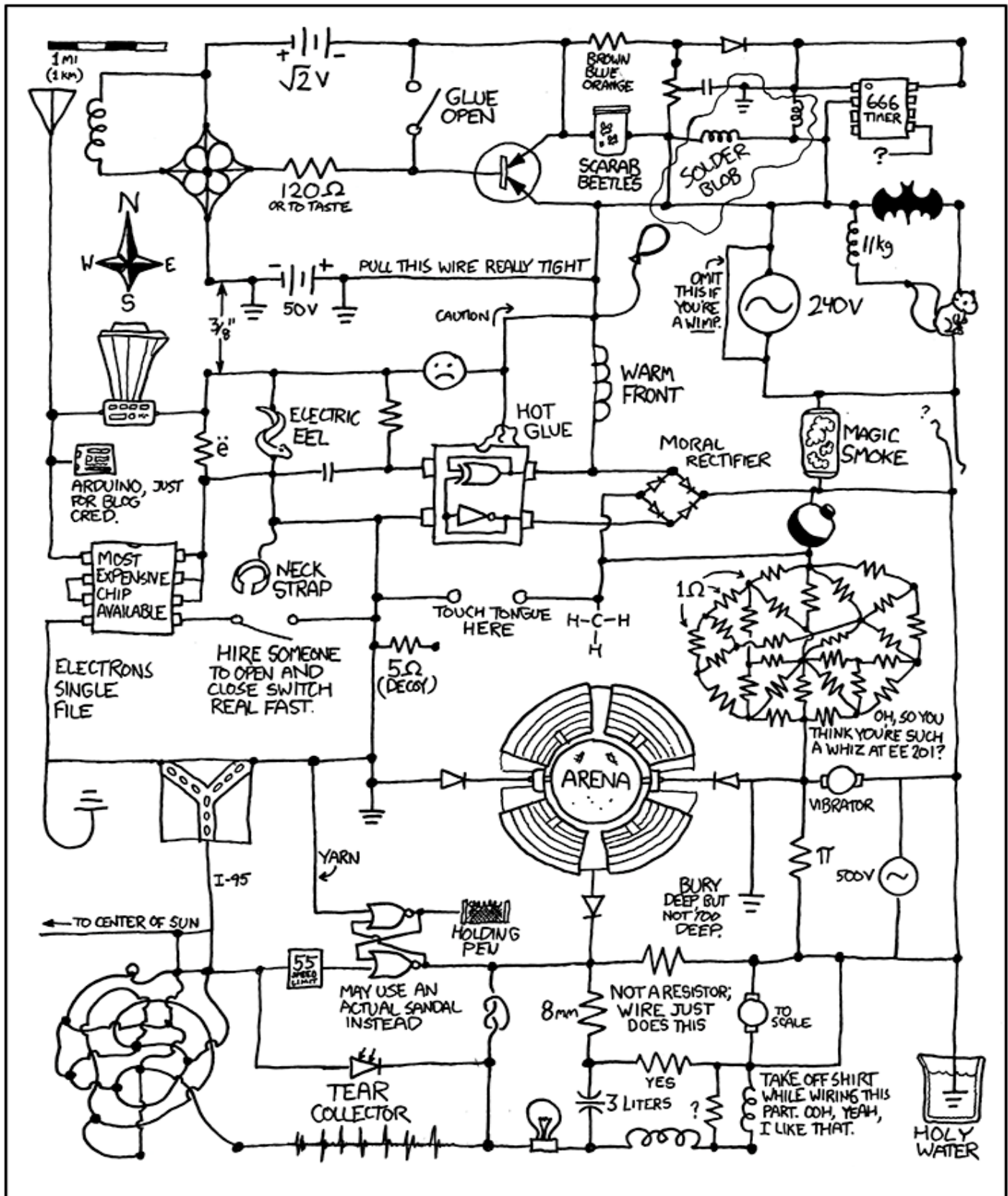
Ross has served as Section Emergency Coordinator for Sacramento Valley (SV), Section Manager for Santa Clara Valley (SCV), Vice-Director of the Pacific Division (1981), Area Coordinator for AMSAT-NA, and is a former manager of the Incoming W6 QSL Bureau.

His current DX totals are 357/338 mixed overall and he is currently on the Honor Roll. Ross operates on CW, RTTY, and the Digital modes.

SBARA is on Facebook!

We Invite you to visit us on Social Media

So you say you can still read a Schematic Diagram?



IMPORTANT AMATUER RADIO WEB PAGE LINKS

www.arrl.org
www.colpage.org
www.qrz.com
www.dailydx.com
www.twit.tv/hn
www.dxspots.com



SBARA Membership meeting Friday,
May 13th, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

Hurricane Electric, 760 Mission Court
(off of Warm Springs Blvd), Fremont

Join us at 6:00 p.m. for the pre-
meeting dinner at: Ho Chow Restau-
rant, 47966 Warm Springs Blvd,
Fremont. (510) 657-0683

SBARA [Ham Radio License Exam](#) date
is May 14th Saturday at 9am—Noon.

Testing Location:

Hurricane Electric
48233 Warm Springs Boulevard
Fremont, CA
(Additional parking on the South side of the building)

Nets and other Club Information

The Slow CW Net

Every Thursday (on 144.230 MHz) and Sunday (on 7.057 MHz +/- 3 KHz) night at 7:30 pm.

You need an "all-mode" transceiver in order to participate in this net.. The net now has its own email address. Please contact us here: "SF Bay CW Enthusiasts" <sf-bay-cw-enthusiasts at googlegroups.com>

—... — Bernhard AE6YN

Monday SBARA Net

The SBARA net takes place every Monday night at 7:30 pm on the WA6PWV repeater, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, PL (if enabled) 103.5 Hz.

Topics are club related things, projects you're working on and so on. It's a chat net. We need net control operators. If you'd like to be net control, let us know during the next net.

—... — Bernhard AE6YN

SBARA.ORG has a new look and some updated content. Navigation follows the known style - information about the club can be accessed via the (black) menu bar at the top and the navigation bar on the left links to various topics of interest to the club. The Contact Us page provides easy access any of the board members and activity chairs, when you have a question or would like something to be included, changed and if a link is not working. The new layout is mobile friendly, making it easier to browse the website on tablet sized and smart phone sized mobile devices. We hope you enjoy the new website.